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FORMER CASA GRANDE BORDER PATROL AGENT SENTENCED FOR THEFT

TUCSON, Ariz. – Former U.S. Border Patrol Agent Paul C. Smith, III, 33, of Arizona City, Ariz., was sentenced here today by U.S. District Chief Judge John M. Roll to a misdemeanor conviction and was ordered to pay \$4,492.75 restitution to the U.S. Border Patrol. Smith resigned from the Casa Grande Station of the U.S. Border Patrol and was ordered by Judge Roll not to seek future employment with local, state or federal law enforcement. Smith paid the restitution immediately after the sentencing.

Smith had pleaded guilty on May 15, 2007 to Theft of Public Money and admitted that on December 12, 2006, he knowingly used a Border Patrol credit card to make a \$1,000 payment to a vehicle repair shop in Casa Grande, Ariz., for repairs and enhancements to a friend's golf cart. The card was paid automatically out of Border Patrol funds with no way for Smith to repay it.

Smith also admitted that in September and October 2006, he knowingly sold 35 Border Patrol owned tires and 10 Border Patrol inner-tubes to the same vehicle repair shop in Casa Grande, Ariz. for \$2,750 and kept the money for his personal use. The original cost paid by Border Patrol for the tires and inner-tubes was \$4,492.75.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General. The prosecution was handled by Mary Sue Feldmeier, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR 06-2166-TUC-JMR (HCE)

RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-215(Smith)